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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to devices that detect and/or treat tachyarrhythmias. The invention includes software systems that distinguish among various tachyarrhythmias in order to provide treatment for specific tachyarrhythmias. One aspect of the invention employs a methodology to provisionally detect ventricular tachycardia and/or fibrillation and thereafter apply a discrimination function to a series of measured intervals preceding the provisional detection. Discrimination is accomplished by sorting the intervals preceding provisional detection into bins corresponding to interval ranges and examining the relative distribution of the intervals within the bins.